

VZCZCXRO7954
OO RUEHPA
DE RUEHOS #0395/01 1481250
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
O 281250Z MAY 07
FM AMCONSUL LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8993
INFO RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE PRIORITY
RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA PRIORITY 8805
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 0055
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY 1276
RUEHWR/AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY 0390
RUEHVB/AMEMBASSY ZAGREB PRIORITY 0051
RUEHCD/AMCONSUL CIUDAD JUAREZ PRIORITY 0369
RUEHIT/AMCONSUL ISTANBUL PRIORITY 0368
RUEHSO/AMCONSUL SAO PAULO PRIORITY 0362
RULSDMK/DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAHL/DEPT OF HOMELAND SECURITY WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEBAAA/DEPT OF ENERGY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUFOADA/JAC MOLESWORTH AFB UK PRIORITY
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LAGOS 000395

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF/W, INR/AA, DS/IP/AF, DS/ICI/PII, DS/DSS/OSAC,
CA/OCS/ACS/AF FOR MESARITI
ZAGREB FOR AMBASSADOR BRADTKE
WARSAW FOR LISA PIASCIK
CIUDAD JUAREZ FOR DONNA BLAIR
OSLO FOR HELENA SCHRADER
ISTANBUL FOR TASHAWNA SMITH
SAO PAULO FOR ANDREW WITHERSPOON
DOE FOR GPERSON, CAROLYN GAY
TREASURY FOR ASEVERENS, SRENENDER, DFIELD
COMMERCE FOR KBURRESS
STATE PASS USTR FOR ASST USTR FLISER
STATE PASS TRANSPORTATION FOR MARAD
STATE PASS OPIC FOR ZHAN AND MSTUCKART
STATE PASS TDA FOR NCABOT
STATE PASS EXIM FOR JRICHTER
STATE PASS USAID FOR GWEYNAND AND SLAWAETZ

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/28/2017

TAGS: [ASEC](#) [CASC](#) [EPET](#) [KDEM](#) [NI](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#)

SUBJECT: SITREP 21: 8 AMCITS REMAIN HOSTAGES, GON RECEIVED
NO OVERTURES OR HOSTAGE DEATH THREATS

REF: A. LAGOS 394

[1](#)B. LAGOS 362

LAGOS 00000395 001.2 OF 002

Classified By: Consul Alan B. C. Latimer for reasons 1.4 (B) and (D)

[1](#)1. (C) Summary: According to the Minister of Information, the GON had not received any ultimatum to release jailed militant leader Dokubo Asari or risk the death of seven expatriates, including three American hostages, as reported in the press on May 27 (Ref A). On the eve of the May 29 inauguration in which Bayelsa State Governor Goodluck Jonathan would become the Vice President of Nigeria, eight American citizens remain hostages throughout the Niger Delta. Three Americans employed by TransCoastal and kidnapped with seven other individuals off the shore of Bayelsa State on May 25 remain hostages. Four American Global Industries (GI) employees kidnapped May 8 off the shore of Delta State also remain hostages. American citizen John Stapleton, four Italian nationals, and one Croatian begin their twenty-eighth day in captivity after being kidnapped May 1 off the shore of

Bayelsa State. End Summary.

GON Received No Ultimatum for Asari's Release
Or Hostages' Death As Reported May 27

¶2. (C) The Minister of Information (protect) told the Public Affairs Section in Abuja that the Federal Government had not been contacted by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), or any other source, regarding the May 27 ultimatum to release jailed militant leader Dokubo Asari or risk the death of three Americans and four British hostages (Ref A). This threat was published in two Nigerian newspapers, the Daily Independent and the New Nigerian, on May 27. The Minister suggested a renegade gang of bandits may have used this article in an attempt to extract a ransom. We have not found any information or contacts able to substantiate this article.

TransCoastal/Bayelsa: Amcits Remain Hostages

¶3. (SBU) American citizens Bobbie Tyner, Shane McMorris, and Richard Moore, as well as four British nationals, remain hostages after being kidnapped May 25 off the shore of Bayelsa State. TransCoastal representatives have not yet confirmed whether the Filipino, South African and Nigerian hostages were released as reported on May 27 (Ref A). TransCoastal will provide a situation update on May 29.

Delta/GI: 4 Amcits Remain Hostages

LAGOS 00000395 002.2 OF 002

¶4. (C) Four American Global Industries (GI) employees, Kevin Fallor, Christopher Gay, Michael Rousell and Larry Plake, begin their twentieth day as hostages. GI may issue a plea for their release in the news media if its four employees remain captives after the May 29 inauguration.

Bayelsa/Chevron: 1 Amcit, 5 Expatriates Remain Hostages;
Chevron Expects May 30 Release

¶5. (C) On May 28, American citizen John Stapleton, four Italians, and one Croatian begin their twenty-eighth day as hostages. According to Chevron, the Governor of Bayelsa has taken the lead in this case over Dr. Godknows Igali, Secretary to the Bayelsa State Government. Two separate

SIPDIS
sources told Chevron that its six expatriate employees would likely be released on May 30. (Note: It was not mentioned whether the four American Global Industries (GI) employees would also be released May 30, despite rumors that the two groups may be released simultaneously (Ref B). End Note.)
BROWNE